

Message Text

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44

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-03 CIAE-00 IGA-01

DODE-00 EB-07 L-03 /094 W
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P R 151107Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4784

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI//USDAO//UDORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 4834

BANGKOK FOR USAID/LAOS RESIDUAL STAFF

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID EFIN LA US

SUBJ: FEOF SIGNATURE

REF: A. STATE 165402 (NOTAL)

B. VIENTIANE 4803

1. CEREMONY FOR SIGNATURE OF 1975 FEOF AGREEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING LETTERS CAME OFF ON SCHEDULE AND WITHOUT A HITCH JULY 15. WE PERHAPS CREATED SOME SUSPENSE BY BEING LAST TO ARRIVE, BUT WE WERE ONLY 30 SECONDS BEHIND THE FRENCH.

2. NEW FONMIN PHOUNE SIPASEUTH SIGNED FOR LAOS. DOCUMENTS EXCHANGED TODAY MAKE CLEAR THAT HE IS "DELEGUE" TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS WELL AS TO DEPUTY MINISTERSHIP. PHOUNE WAS FLANKED BY HIS SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. KITHONG VONGSAY; MINISTER OF FINANCE, LEUAM RAJASOMBAT, AND HIS SECSTATE BOUSBONG SOUVANNAVONG; AND NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR OUDONG SOUVANNAVONG.

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3. COMPLETE SET OF DOCUMENTS WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPT
JULY 16.

4. FONMIN PHOUNE SPOKE IN LAO (AS HE HAD DURING FIRST
PUBLIC APPEARANCE AT FRENCH NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION
PREVIOUS EVENING). ACCORDING TO FRENCH TRANSLATION,
HE SAID IN PART THAT DURING YEAR IN COURSE LAOS HAD
EXPERIENCED ALL SORTS OF DIFFICULTIES, NOTABLY IN REALM
OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE AND STANDARD OF LIVING OF PUPU-
LATION; DESPITE EVERYTHING, THANKS TO EFFORTS OF PGNU,
SACRIFICES OF LAO PATRIOTS AND HELP OF FRIENDLY
COUNTRIES INCLUDING FEOF DONORS, LAOS HAS BEEN ABLE TO
OVERCOME OBSTACLES AND GET THROUGH DIFFICULT PHASES.
HE NOTED THAT PGNU HAD BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR BARELY
ONE YEAR, A SHORT TIME COMPARED TO 30 YEARS OF WAR
WHICH HAD DEVASTATED THE COUNTRY AND PREVENTED ANY
EFFORT AT DEVELOPMENT. THESE FACTORS EXPLAINED
STAGNANT ECONOMY, DEFICIENCIES IN PRODUCTION, AND LACK
OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY, ABOVE ALL IN AGRICULTURAL AND
INDUSTRIAL SECTORS. MONETARY INSTABILITY WAS OBVIOUS
COROLLARY OF THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS. HOWEVER, FONMIN
EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT THIS SITUATION WAS ONLY TEMPO-
RARY AND THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF 18-POINT POLITICAL
PROGRAM WOULD ALLOW LAO PEOPLE TO MAKE THEIR COUNTRY
PROSPEROUS AS WELL AS PEACEFUL, INDEPENDENT, NEUTRAL,
DEMOCRATIC AND UNIFIED. FONMIN EMPHASIZED DESIRE OF
LAOS TO RECEIVE UNCONDITIONAL AID FROM ALL FRIENDLY
COUNTRIES WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL SYSTEMS. AID
ACCORDED BY DONOR-COUNTRIES THROUGH FEOF WOULD HELP
LAOS RESOLVE ITS PRESENT DIFFICULTIES TO SOME EXTENT
SO COUNTRY COULD IN NEAR FUTURE ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFI-
CIENCY AND ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE. HE
CONCLUDED BY REITERATING THANKS AND STATING: "MAY
FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN LAO PEOPLE AND PEOPLES (OF
DONOR-COUNTRIES) PROSPER AND INCESSANTLY EXPAND ITS
HORIZON."

5. BRITISH AMBASSADOR, ON BEHALF OF DONORS, REPLIED
ALONG LINES OF VIENTIANE 4744, PARA 5.
CHAPMAN
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: TREATY SIGNATURE
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Draft Date: 15 JUL 1975
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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